



State of Utah
Department of
Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of
Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:

Company	Dennis Ware	Controller
OGM	Pete Hess	Environmental Scientist III

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070038
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Thursday, November 16, 2006
Start Date/Time:	11/16/2006 12:45:00 PM
End Date/Time:	11/16/2006 2:15:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Wednesday, October 11, 2006

Inspector: Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: 40's F. Overcast over Castle Gate

InspectionID Report Number: 1139

Accepted by: whedberg

11/28/2006

Permittee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Site: **WILLOW CREEK MINE**

Address: **PO BOX 30, HELPER UT 84526-0030**

County: **CARBON**

Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**

Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

14,670.00	Total Permitted
176.35	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- ☒ Federal
☐ State
☐ County
☒ Fee
☒ Other

Types of Operations

- ☒ Underground
☐ Surface
☒ Loadout
☐ Processing
☐ Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The Permittee's second quarter 2006 surface water monitoring information was uploaded to the Division web site on September 11, 2006. The Permittee continues to meet the Special Permit Condition included as Attachment "A" of the current State permit.

There are no pending compliance actions for the Willow Creek Mine permit area.

The Mine facilities from the access gate up Canyon to the propane storage tank facility (including the Mine buildings) have received Phase III bond release (Task ID #2521) as of May 9, 2006. The buildings are now owned by the College of Eastern Utah, and constitute the Western Energy Training Center.

Phase III bond release has also been granted by the DOGM for the area up-Canyon of the School House Canyon drainage area all the way to the gate on the north side of the water process pond. This now belongs to the Price River Water Improvement District.

The following areas are still inspectable by the DOGM; Crandall Canyon, Gravel Canyon, School House Canyon, the reclaimed rail loadout facility, and the area from the Mine facilities access gate encompassing the long and short tunnels, the Mine site sediment pond, the Castle Gate access road from the Permittee's gate up to the School House drainage mentioned above.

Inspector's Signature:

Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Inspector ID Number: 46

Date Friday, November 17, 2006

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

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Inspection Continuation Sheet

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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
 - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Signs and Markers

The placement of Permittee identification signs in reclaimed areas which remain under R645 jurisdiction was discussed, (particularly the School House Canyon area, and the reclaimed rail loadout facility). The Division recommended that a sign be placed identifying the Permittee in the reclaimed rail car loading area. However, the other areas do not need signs because they are adjacent to an access which is not a public road. This road accesses Price River Water Improvement District facilities (private), Plateau Mining Company reclaimed areas (private), and a utility corridor providing services to both Helper City and Price City. The PacifiCorp Carbon Plant also has a need to be able to use this access.

3. Topsoil

With the exception of one topsoil pile located at the Crandall Canyon gate, all topsoil storage piles have been utilized for reclamation of the site. The Permittee elected not to use the material in this pile due to the large amount of "white top" in the vegetative cover. A "topsoil storage" sign remains on the pile. The Permittee should remove the sign to avoid concern.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

The Mine site pond below the Western Energy Training Center is inspected on a quarterly basis by personnel from EarthFax Engineering, Salt Lake City, Utah. There was no water in the pond this day. The primary riser and secondary open spillway appeared capable of functioning as designed.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

With the exception of pond 001A (Mine site pond), all UPDES outfalls have been removed. The status of the transfer of pond 001A to the Western Energy Training Center as part of the storm water permit is pending.

7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments

The School House Canyon reclaimed waste rock facility has received Phase I bond release. As observed this day, the area appears stable, and the revegetation cover appears to be doing well. There were no visible signs of erosion in the lower reaches of the re-established drainage.

10. Slides and Other Damage

Mr. Ware informed the DOGM this day that a section of the Castle Gate sandstone escarpment which separates School House Canyon from Barn Canyon had recently collapsed, with most of the material reporting to the surface of the reclaimed waste rock pile. The incident occurred just prior to a bond release inspection conducted by Mr. Henry Austin of the Office of Surface Mining of the waste facility.

11. Contemporaneous Reclamation

Both of the reclaimed/backfilled air shafts in Crandall Canyon have settled. The barrier fences and signs are adequate to warn unauthorized personnel of the danger associated with these reclamation areas. Mr. Ware has made arrangements to have additional material placed where the ground has settled.

13. Revegetation

The vegetation in Gravel Canyon appears to be doing very well.

16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing

There are two minor erosion rills across the road accessing the Crandall Canyon facilities. Also, minor sandstone failures have placed debris in the ditches paralleling the cutbank toes. The Permittee has made arrangements to have these issues corrected.

21. Bonding and Insurance

The Division has reviewed and approved a reduction in the amount of reclamation bond for the Willow Creek site (from \$4,410,114 to \$2,275,114) effective October 27, 2006.